

REMARKS

Applicants submit this Amendment in reply to the Final Office Action dated December 23, 2003, along with a Request for Continued Examination. As an initial matter, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of the allowance of claims 35-53.

In this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 54-89, without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to present the subject matter of claims 54-89 in a continuation application of this application and/or any further continuation application thereof. Claims 35 and 44 are the sole independent claims.

Before entry of this Amendment, claims 35-89 were pending in this application. After entry of this Amendment, claims allowed 35-53 are the sole pending claims in this application.

This Amendment places this application in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore request the entry of this Amendment, and the timely allowance of the pending claims 35-53.

The Office Action contains characterizations of the claims and the related art with which Applicants do not necessarily agree. Unless expressly noted otherwise, Applicants decline to subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.


Customer No. 22,852
Application No. 09/828,794
Attorney Docket No. 7883.0011-01

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Amendment and
charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 23, 2004

By: 
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